

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

APR 0 3 2009

Ms. Linda A. Kelleher, CMC City Clerk City of Reading Pennsylvania Reading Local Redevelopment Authority Room 2-24 815 Washington Street Reading, PA 19601-3690

Dear Ms. Kelleher:

This is in response to a request that the Department of Defense extend the time period for the City of Reading Local Redevelopment Authority, successor to the Reading Berks Public Safety Local Redevelopment Authority, as the recognized Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA), to complete its redevelopment plan and homeless submission as required for property at the Navy-Marine Corps Reserve Center, Reading, Pennsylvania.

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) Act of 1990, Public Law 101-510, as amended, provides that an LRA must submit the redevelopment plan not later than 9 months after the date specified for receipt of notices of interest. Section 176.20(c)(5) of the implementing regulation further explains this requirement as 270 days.

Because the LRA deadline for receipt of notices of interest was September 15, 2006, the redevelopment plan and homeless submission deadline was June 12, 2007. By prior actions that date was extended to March 1, 2009. Section 2905(b)(7)(N) of the BRAC Act authorizes the Department to extend this deadline after consultation with the local redevelopment authority and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), if it determines that such an extension is in the best interest of the community affected by the closure or realignment.

Based upon the information contained in your letter, and subsequent consultation with LRA staff, HUD, and Navy personnel, I have determined that an extension is in the best interest of the community. I am therefore granting the City of Reading Local Redevelopment Authority, successor to Reading Berks Public Safety Local Redevelopment Authority the extension. All required actions and finalization of a redevelopment plan and homeless submission for the Navy-Marine Corps Reserve Center must be completed no later than June 30, 2009.



Questions pertaining to this extension may be directed to Garry Gontz, at (703) 604-5142, or via email at garry.gontz@wso.whs.mil.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. O'Brien

Director

Office of Economic Adjustment

cc:

Navy BRAC PMO DAS, HUD (Special Needs)